Popular

Luscombe, B. (n.d.). How Ugly School Uniforms Will Save Education. Retrieved November 10,

2014, from <http://time.com/37090/how-ugly-school-uniforms-will-save-education/>

This article is an opinion piece from Time magazine about how if public schools adopted uniforms it would make the problems go away. The author herself, states that she wore a uniform for 13 years so she speaks from experience. She says how uniforms would help stop bullying because everyone will be the same. It would also make the administrators of the school have an easier time because they would have to look out for less dress code violations. She also says that students will feel empower from having uniforms. There is also an argument that students will become better citizens by wearing uniforms. The student learns sacrifice and commitment to rules.

The author’s opinion is that many problems in the public school system can be solved by adopting uniforms. I feel that while some problems of the school might be solved by uniforms, other will arise from this in the public school setting. A positive of this policy could be infarct lower rates of bully because students all look the same. Students will also find a way to single out others as different or worthy of being bullied so I think it might not work. Student’s freedom and expression about what kinds of clothes they wear will be severely limited. One could argue that if education is about free thought and discovering the truth then if you are unable to have freedom over yourself how can you learn.

Modest Clothing for the Modern Lifestyle. (n.d.). Retrieved November 10, 2014, from <http://www.koshercasual.com/5-Benefits-of-a-School-Dress-Code_b.html>

This article comes from a conservative Jewish clothing site that caters to women looking for, “modesty in the modern world.” The author of this piece gives five main points and says they backed up by research to prove the effectiveness. The author talks not of uniforms but the importance of a dress code to improve the school life. It will lead to serious atmosphere in schools because the students will be focusing on their school work not on what they wearing. The author also says the parents can save money by not having to purchase new clothing to keep up with fashion trends. It also says how dress codes can lessen the promiscuity but still retain their personal choice.

Here the author does not go as far as saying uniforms are a necessity to public school. Kosher Casual however believes in the importance of dress codes in school. Something that stood out to me when reading this article was that they suggested research backed their claims then provided no links or talked of their research. This can make an article less credible to a more intelligent reader who does take information at face value. As this was coming from a conservative Jewish clothing site it brought up the “modern problems” or indecency and modesty.

Scholarly

American Muslim Teenagers: Torn Between Religion and Culture. (2008, December 21). Retrieved November 10, 2014, from <http://www.tc.columbia.edu/news.htm?articleId=6797>

This academic article comes from the teachers college at Colombia University in New York. It is about how Arab-Muslim youth face difficulties in American public schools. It is research piece that talks how through interviews with around 630 Muslim students in schools they were better able to understand what they face. One problem described was how parents had to decide whether to send their children to the New York Regents test or to keep them home to celebrate the holiday, *Eid-ul-Adha.* Dietary and clothing differences keep these students feeling like the separate other in the school. Some girls don’t wear the hijab out of fear of being seen as different. Males who grow bears said they are seen as “terrorists” or anti-American.

I chose this article because I have actually felt some this anti-Arab talk in my time in high school. While I am not Muslim but Catholic when told other students who asked of my ethnic background and said Lebanon was a called a terrorist. While many of these students said these kinds of statements jokes I still took some of it personally. I have also been the subject of increased at airports. When I was traveling to Italy with my school I had a beard and was the only student to be stopped by the TSA to have my bag more thoroughly searched and was asked questions about what I was going to do in Italy. I am actually Italian and Irish as well but I have felt the need to hide my own Lebanese identity many times in public. I cannot comprehend how these students must feel everyday knowing that their own cultural and religious identity is being compared to that of terrorists. This ignorance of cultural differences while having been present in history I actually believe might be in fact heightened in our post 9/11 world. Education is needed in this respect in schools as well as public policy to change our view point on stereotypes.

Workman, J., & Freeburg, B. (n.d.). Teacher Dress Codes in Employee Handbooks: An Analysis. *Journal of Family & Consumer Sciences,* *102*(3), 9-15. Retrieved November 30, 2014, from EBSCO Host.

<http://web.a.ebscohost.com.uri.idm.oclc.org/ehost/detail/detail?sid=eae2b456-9f31-4add-b611-52f1fefcea24%40sessionmgr4005&vid=2&hid=4112&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWhvc3QtbGl2ZSZzY29wZT1zaXRl#db=eft&AN=508175238>

This is a journal article about how many professions have a certain archetype of how they are supposed to dress. *“For school districts, teacher dress codes are a way to promote professionalism, improve the classroom learning environment, and emphasize the need for teachers to consider their status in the educational hierarchy.”* The article cites examples of how when teacher doesn’t dress professionally he or she will lose respect and credibility not only in eyes of students but the school administration. Teachers fill an important role in society and they should look the part. Teachers can be the roles models that lacking in the students home life and this is an important feature of their job. The article also talks about how handbooks for teachers are important in outlining the distance between the students.

I found this article to be important in showing our cultures standards when it comes to dress codes. It shows that not only students have dress codes but teachers must adhere to them as well. This also shows that these dress codes come from the school administrations themselves who determine if something is proper school attire or not. The article also says that if a teacher dresses more causally then they care less about their job. I don’t believe this to be true because the manner in which someone dresses should not be used to make a judge on their academic credibility. Sadly in our society how someone dresses usually gives people how much worth they have by their appearance. This

Mucci, A. (2014). Teacher Perceptions and Responses Towards Behavior in Catholic Secondary Schools. *American Seconday Education,* *42*(2), 4-19. Retrieved November 30, 2014, from EBSCO Host.

<http://web.a.ebscohost.com.uri.idm.oclc.org/ehost/detail/detail?sid=a6884c88-4b63-48e4-929c-98b602119279%40sessionmgr4003&vid=23&hid=4112&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWhvc3QtbGl2ZSZzY29wZT1zaXRl#db=a9h&AN=96548181>

This article is a study from the *American Secondary Education* journal about behavior in Catholic high schools. They took interviews with seven teachers in Catholic high schools. The group was varied in terms of four males and 3 females with two of this number being a member of a religious order such as a brother or nun. One teacher is recorded saying that in his time teaching at a catholic school there have never been any serious discipline problems. The teachers were divided on whether or not attending a Catholic school was the reason for low behavioral problems. But they all seemed to agree that uniforms as well as the parents’ investment in the education made the students more aware of the importance of being in school.

Coming from a Catholic High school but having a public middle and elementary school background attracted me to this article. From my own personal experiences, behaviorally problems were much greater in my middle school than in my high school. A point that was brought up in the article was that the teachers at Catholic schools wanted to make the student feel engaged in the class room. I feel that my teachers in high school were much better than that of my middle school they did seem to care so I agree with this point. Of course however one cannot say that the best teachers are at the private schools while the bad teachers are at the public schools. I did feel the neeed to excel both academically and athletically in high school because I understood that my parents were paying for my education and I wanted to get the most out of it. Most of the other students in my school agreed with this and there were very little discipline issues. My school did however have a dress code which consisted of a polo style shirt (of your choice), dress shoes, a belt and dress pants. The article also talked about hwo the uniform or dress code helped to keep the students focused. In my case going to all male school with a dress code made very little room for behavioral problems. We still tried to bend these rules as far the administration would let us. For example I remember wearing sweater in the winter time so I wouldn’t have to tuck in my shirt.